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LETTER DATED 14 MAY 1993 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I am writing to you in connection with the letter dated 10 May 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations (S/25748) addressed to you.

It is deeply regrettable and disturbing that the Government of Croatia, in an apparent effort to stave off condemnation and evade responsibility for the Croatian offensive in central Bosnia has tried to put the blame on the Serbian side.

It is indeed absurd and an outrageous example of hypocrisy that the Government of Croatia is pointing the finger "at Serbian aggression against the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina" when the Security Council has strongly condemned this major military offensive launched by Bosnian Croat paramilitary units which is totally inconsistent with the signature of the peace plan by the Bosnian Croat side.

At a juncture when it is becoming vividly plain that what is at stake in Bosnia and Herzegovina is a cruel and tragic civil war based on ethnic and religious differences in which no party is innocent, the Government of Croatia has once again resorted to well-worn falsehoods of alleged Serbian aggression. As can be deduced from the reports of the Secretary-General, the only aggressor in Bosnia and Herzegovina are the regular forces of the Croatian army, 40,000 to 50,000 of which occupy western Herzegovina.

While "ethnic cleansing" is being carried out against all non-Croats in Croat-held territories in Bosnia and Herzegovina in full view of UNPROFOR and the international community, which has resulted in a strong rebuke by the Security Council, the Government of Croatia, by cynically condemning the Serbian side for alleged aggression in Bosnia and Herzegovina, is trying to divert attention from the responsibility of the Bosnian Croat side for the hostilities which it is undertaking in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIC
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.